

President Plans Fight for Power To Fix Prices

Will Rely on "Big Stick" if
Industries Oppose
Policy

Present Law Weak

Wilson May Seek Extra Legis-
lation if Producers
Resist

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—President Wilson has taken the war price-fixing problem largely into his own hands, it is said, and is to-day engaged in a study of it while cruising on the Presidential yacht Mayflower in Chesapeake Bay.

The War Industries Board is confused regarding its powers to enforce all the principles which the President enunciated in his recent statement on the subject of profiteering, especially if manufacturers should challenge openly the government's policy.

The Bethlehem Steel Company's denial that it has thrown down the gauntlet to the government was not accepted here as entirely removing the possibility that either that company or some other within a brief time would make some test of the government's powers.

To meet such a possibility the President is said to be relying very largely on the power of the "big stick."

With the law admittedly weak with respect to the matter of seizing supplies for the Allies at the same price the government can fix under certain sections of the recent laws, let alone fixing prices for the public, the President is said to be counting on the effect of open statements to the people, similar to that which he issued recently, for bringing any recalcitrants to terms. If this fails additional legislation is to be asked of Congress to remove all uncertainty.

A step in this direction has already been taken. Senator Pomeroy, who is close to the President, has introduced a bill expressly giving the President power during the war to fix prices on steel, iron, iron ore and their products, whether for war purposes or not. The bill would declare all such industries to be war industries, and as such within the absolute control of the President for the period of the war, the government to fix all prices, even for private purchase.

It is believed that this bill was introduced by Senator Pomeroy, who is close to the President, and this will be enlarged and given executive approval within a short time if the circumstances make it necessary.

The entire question now is whether the government has power to fix prices for the Allies and for the public. As to the right to fix prices on government war supplies there is no dispute.

Central Empires
Conceal Distress

Economic Situation More Serious
Than Supposed, Is Report
From Neutral Country

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—The economic situation in the Central Empires is more serious than had been commonly supposed, according to an official report received here to-day. This report, coming from a neutral country, is more serious than had been commonly supposed, according to an official report received here to-day.

Information from Germany and Austria-Hungary, especially matter appearing in the Austro-German press, shows that the economic situation of the Central Empires is becoming more and more critical. It is a known fact that the Austro-German newspapers for a considerable time have attempted, some voluntarily and others by compulsion, to conceal the real situation, which even has been hinted at the true economic conditions.

"At the present time, however, because the situation has become very critical, there are beginning to appear in both the Austro-German and the German newspaper news notes which indicate the extent of the economic embarrassment of both countries.

Vegetables, and especially potatoes, are scarce, and the price of food is rising. The Hungarian paper 'Narodnik' states that the directors of the Austro-Hungarian prisons are in a great quandary on account of not being able to procure food for their prisoners.

The papers frankly express their disapproval of the manner in which food is distributed and also their regret that the prisoners are being permitted to starve in constantly increasing numbers.

"A severe drought has destroyed the entire crop of Moravia and Slovakia, the cattle suffering terribly thereby."

Food in London Costs
Less Than in America

Britain Limits Profits So All
Can Buy Staples, Says
Traveller

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 11.—The cost of living in London is considerably less than in any large city in America, despite abnormal war conditions, according to M. P. Grace, a New York trader, who arrived here to-day on an American liner.

According to Mr. Grace, the arbitrary prices taken by the British food control commission have minimized the profits of the wholesale and middleman so that food placed within the reach of all. Prices of many commodities have been fixed by the government, and are permitted to fluctuate only slightly.

Another passenger, Homer Langford, vice mate of the British auxiliary sailing ship Cornish, sunk 200 miles off the Irish coast on January 23, told how the Germans ransacked his vessel for provisions before blowing her up.

More than 1,000 sacks of coffee, as well as many other staples, were taken over the submarine before bombs were thrown at the Cornish's hull. The crew, all of whom were saved, was picked up four hours later by British naval boats.

Curb on Rail Rates

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—In accordance with the new law increasing the membership of the Interstate Commerce Commission from seven to nine, the commission to-day notified all railroads that applications for increasing rates or fares without prior approval of the commission must be discontinued before January 1, 1920.

The act closes the door to the filing of innumerable minor rate increases, as conducted in the past, unless the commission shall approve them.

NEWPORT SOCIETY AIDS COMFORT LEAGUE



Miss Rosalind Gatling as Charlotte (on the left) and Miss Janet Tatum as Valeska Surratt (on the right) were among those who attended the Broadway Ball at Newport, which was held for the benefit of Uncle Sam's sailors. Miss Tatum won the first prize.

Everybody Must
Be Ready to Pay,
Says Simmons

Money as Essential as
Armies and Navies, Sen-
ator Declares

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Nearly all of to-day in the Senate was occupied by Senator Simmons, chairman of the Finance Committee, in completing his explanation begun yesterday of changes made in the House war tax bill by his committee. The debate will be resumed on Monday, at which time Senator La Follette expects to introduce a minority report.

"I believe this is a righteous war, made necessary by every consideration of national honor and safety," Senator Simmons said in speaking of the bill's heavy tax levies. "I know that money is as essential to its successful prosecution as armies and navies, and I believe that every one should pay for its support according to his ability."

The Senator added that attempts to evade paying the war taxes would be made only by the few persons "to whom war means nothing more than a golden opportunity to profiteer on necessities."

Of the liquor section Senator Simmons said the Senate committee accepted practically all the House rates imposed on intoxicating beverages and that changes made were due to the passage of the food control bill and the necessity for raising a larger amount of tax money.

"Undoubtedly the prohibition of the manufacture of spirits for beverage purposes," he said, "and the commandeering powers of the President will give to the owners of the stock of spirits now in bond and in stock a practical monopoly of the market, and prices will be greatly increased."

The higher tax on beer and wines, he said, was deemed necessary because there would be an enlarged market for them. Senator Simmons declared that the farmers were willing to bear their share of the war taxes and that no request for exemption from the provisions of the bill had reached him from them. He told the Senate that the farmers had received returns for their products on the average beyond their most optimistic dreams, and that they would continue to reap a splendid return under the prevailing prices.

Senator Simmons had planned to discuss the bill, but as Senator Simmons did not conclude until late he postponed his speech until Monday.

Charles C. Carlton
Charles C. Carlton, formerly a newspaper correspondent, died Saturday at the home of his sister, Mrs. F. C. McKee, on Lawrence Boulevard, Bayshore, N. Y. He was born in Terra Haute, Ind. His life was prominent. Early in life he took up newspaper work and in 1897 was sent to Washington as correspondent for "The San Francisco Call." In 1907 he was sent to this city as correspondent for the same paper, and retired two years ago.

He is survived by three sisters, Mrs. McKee, of Bayshore, and Mrs. R. D. Strong, and Mrs. Bruce Bement, of Terra Haute. Funeral services will be held Monday afternoon and interment will be at Terra Haute.

Idlers Watch 2 Boys Drown
PLYMOUTH, Mass., Aug. 11.—Several persons on the shore of Wenham Pond watched three boys apparently enjoying a swimming and diving frolic about an old boat yesterday and discovered too late that two of the boys were helpless. The two, Angus Parker and Norman Storey, were drowned. Norman's brother Paul was rescued.

Public Markets for Boston
BOSTON, Aug. 11.—Six public markets will be opened next week on land owned by the city. Garden produce in the suburbs will in this way reach consumers at moderate prices. Public markets in other cities of this state have proved successful.

Belgian Exile Longs For Family at Home

Escaped Here from Antwerp;
Sends Money to Wife by
"Underground Railway"

Jules Penes, thirty-two years old, a Belgian, is in New York, after escaping from Antwerp under the rear seat of a hack several months ago. He later sailed three times back and forth across the Atlantic.

Jules left a pretty, dark-haired wife and two boys, four and five years old, because there was not sufficient for the whole family to eat, and to remain was only inviting starvation.

From New York he sends every month two-thirds of his earnings to his little family across the sea by the "underground wireless," and receives in return a thousand love messages.

"Were you not afraid to leave your



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U. S. Trade Body Acts to Forestall Coal Profiteering

Prices Should Not Increase
More Than 10 Cents
September 1

Heated Session Held
Washington Dealers Seek to
Defend Their Fuel
Charges

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Coal dealers who increase their prices for anthracite more than 10 cents a ton before September 1 will be considered by the Federal Trade Commission as openly declaring "a policy of profiteering."

Indications are that bituminous coal prices will be reduced in the future, the commission announces.

"Barring increased wages to mine labor," the Federal Trade Commission declared in an official statement, "present prices of anthracite at the mines will not increase beyond the normal 10 cents per ton September 1, which will bring prices up to the winter level. Any proposed increase in anthracite prices greater than 10 cents per ton on September 1 is therefore totally unjustified. Present indications are that bituminous prices will be reduced in the future."

"Further indulgence in high prices and excessive margins on the part of dealers of Washington or of other cities can be regarded only as an open declaration of a policy of 'profiteering' on the part of dealers."

Heated Session Held
The statement was issued after a heated session between the commission and representative Washington coal dealers, who opposed the action of the commission, based on the dealers' own figures, have been excessive on both bituminous and anthracite coal in the last few months.

Five Dollars a Ton Profits
According to the figures, gross profits on bituminous coal sometimes were as high as \$5 a ton, and the net profits on anthracite were \$1.25 to \$1.35 a ton. These profits were declared unjustified.

The hearing developed that there was no coal shortage here last winter, as the women receive much better treatment than the men, and there have been few atrocities committed in our town."

The little Belgian was then asked regarding the deportations. "It was a question of necessity. The men were lined up once a month, and, after passing inspection, the more robust were sent to work on the farms and roads, for which they received their keep. The thought of being sent to labor like a draft animal for the invaders was too much. I loved my home, but I love my liberty more."

"Would to God that I could go back to-morrow! I have often thought of 'showing' prudence to the winds and going home, although I know I would pay with my life. It is easy to die, but to live in a foreign land and keep the pot boiling at home, that is hard. You never can realize how terribly hard it is to be so many miles away from those nearest and dearest to you. When Belgium is no longer under the German yoke, I am going home—never to leave again!"

City Sees No Danger
Of Soaring Coal Prices

The Broadway Association is endeavoring to prevent a recurrence of the experience New York had last winter, when the price of coal was almost prohibitive and the supply here unusually scanty. In reply to a letter asking what action the city had taken, a communication written by James McGinley, chief of staff of the office of the Commissioner of Accounts, has been forwarded to the organization by Samuel L. Martin, executive secretary, to Mayor Mitchell. It is in part as follows:

"The Federal Trade Commission is very much alive to the requirements of the situation, both in New York City and other parts of the country. It has been able to establish a considerable measure of supervision over the price of anthracite coal, and, since the conference with the commission by the city representatives, it would seem from the newspapers that by agreement a maximum price has been established for bituminous coal."

"The commission has endeavored to improve the transportation service, by stopping the misuse of coal cars and to increase production, particularly in the bituminous field, where the greatest trouble has existed, by arranging with the operators and the railroads whereby the supply of coal cars for loading at the mines will be increased. Apparently his efforts are meeting with success, but the government is obliged to depend upon the cooperation of the operators and transportation companies in the absence of laws giving authority to exact obedience to its orders which has been introduced for the purpose of giving the government authority to fix prices, and take over the mines and railroads if necessary, and to require preferential shipment of such commodities as coal and food, is enacted into law, the government will be in a better position to exact such a standard of service as will insure a reasonable supply of coal and prevent the charging of further exorbitant rates."

Illirip's Coal Director
Will Fix Prices Soon

CHICAGO, Aug. 11.—The individual consumer may be able to buy soft coal mined in Illinois at considerable reductions in price before the end of next week.

Early this morning Chief Justice Carter—named at midnight as director of coal by Governor Lowden—started on his big new job of fixing coal prices. "I am informed," said the judge, "that the agreement signed by the coal operators and by the Governor gives me full power to fix without delay prices to be charged for coal. On that understanding I accept what is at best a thankless task."

Judge Carter's first act was to call up the attorneys for the coal operators. He asked that the operators' committee and its lawyers meet him at noon to discuss preliminaries and get the big work promptly under way.

He was assured that the operators had made their agreement in good faith, and were ready to carry it out. He was urged, however, to postpone the first meeting until Monday morning, on the ground that several of the committee had made important engagements for Saturday which it would be difficult to break. In accordance with that request it was decided that the first meeting should be held at 9:30 o'clock Monday morning at Judge Carter's office.

Lieutenant Phillips to Marry
Miss Genevieve Leland Sanford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Baylies Sanford, of 35 East Thirtieth Street, will be married to Lieutenant William F. Phillips, U. S. A., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederic D. Phillips, of 443 Park Avenue, on Saturday afternoon next at the Byways, the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford, at Lawrence, Long Island. The bride's only attendant will be her sister, Mrs. Henry Lawrence Rogers, jr. Lieutenant Phillips is now at Philadelphia.

Cretonnes
A wonderful assortment of Cretonnes in beautiful designs.
Reduced for this sale only
22c yard
regularly 35c.

Willow Chairs
Natural Willow Arm Chairs with excellent quality Cretonne cushions.
Reduced for this sale only
4.25
regularly 6.10

James McCreery & Co.

5th Avenue ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY 34th Street

August Sale

HOUSEHOLD & DECORATIVE LINENS

At Reductions of 20% to 40%

The fact that Linens are obtainable at such reductions when market prices are steadily advancing, suggests the advantage of purchasing during this great August Sale.

Heavy Irish Linen Damask Tablecloths:

2x2 yards formerly 4.00, 4.50 and 5.50, each 2.90, 3.25 and 4.00
2x2 1/2 yards formerly 4.50, 5.25 and 6.50, each 3.25, 4.00 and 5.00
2x3 yards formerly 5.75, 6.50 and 7.50, each 4.50, 5.00 and 6.00

Napkins to match:

22x22 inches formerly 5.00 to 6.00, doz. 3.75, 4.25 and 5.00
24x24 inches formerly 5.50 to 7.50, doz. 4.00, 4.50 and 6.00
300 Double Satin Damask Tablecloths,—superior quality; 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 yards each 7.50 formerly 9.50

Hemstitched Pure Irish Linen Sheets formerly 9.50, 12.50, 16.00, pair 7.50, 9.50, 12.50
Hemstitched Pure Irish Linen Pillow Cases, formerly 2.75, 3.25, 4.00, pair 1.90, 2.50, 3.00

Towels

Hemmed Huckaback Towels formerly 2.50, 3.00, 4.00, doz. 1.90, 2.50 and 3.00
Hemstitched Huckaback Towels formerly 3.00, 3.75, 6.00, doz. 2.50, 3.00 and 4.50
Pure Linen Huck Towels, hemmed formerly 6.00 and 7.50, doz. 4.50 and 6.00
Pure Linen Huck Towels, hemstitched formerly 7.50 and 9.00, doz. 6.00 and 7.50
Pure Linen Huck Towels, guest size; hemmed formerly 3.75 and 4.75, doz. 2.75 and 3.75
Pure Linen Huck Towels, guest size; hemstitched, formerly 4.50 and 6.00, doz. 3.00 and 4.50
Irish Twilled Kitchen Towels with name woven in red formerly 4.50, doz. 3.50
Irish Check Glass Towels with striped borders formerly 3.00, doz. 2.50
Turkish Bath Towels formerly 3.00, 4.00 and 6.00, doz. 2.50, 3.00 and 4.50

Madeira Hand-Embroidered and Scalloped Linens

Luncheon Sets, 13 pieces formerly 4.75 to 7.50; set 3.25, 4.50 and 6.00
Tea Napkins with embroidered corners formerly 7.50 to 9.00, doz., 5.25, 6.50 and 7.50
Pillow Covers formerly 2.50, 3.25 and 4.50, each, 1.90, 2.50 and 2.75

Hemmed Muslin Sheets and Pillow Cases

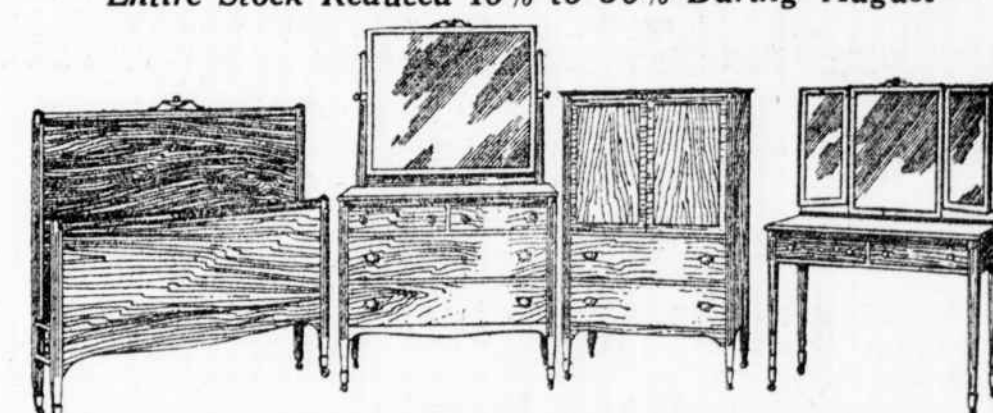
Sheets,	54x90	63x99	72x99	81x99	90x99	90x108
	70c	85c	95c	1.05	1.15	1.25 each
Cases,	42x36	45x36	50x36	54x36		
	20c	22c	25c	28c		

Midsummer Sale

McCREERY "MASTER MADE" FURNITURE

Beds and Bedding

Entire Stock Reduced 10% to 50% During August



Four-piece Adam Model Suite, as illustrated, in Mahogany or finished in Ivory Enamel. Suite includes Dresser, Chiffonade, Toilet Table and Full Size Bed.

159.50 regularly 225.00

LIBRARY FURNITURE

Queen Anne Model Sofas, with cane back and arms; loose cushions and pillows covered in Damask. regularly 155.00, 125.00

Overstuffed Colonial Model Sofas, upholstered in Tapestry; outside backs covered in same material. regularly 110.00, 79.50

Velour Armchairs and Rockers with loose cushions. regularly 54.00, 27.00

Post Colonial Wing Chairs covered in Tapestry. regularly 35.00, 19.75

Solid Mahogany Library Tables, 39.50 regularly 55.00

BEDS and BEDDING

Brass Beds, with 2-inch posts, seven 1-in. filler rods and square top rods. All sizes. regularly 27.50, 20.50

Enamelled Iron Bungalow Beds, with 2-inch square posts and 1-inch square filler rods. regularly 14.00, 11.00

Upholstered Box Springs, with roll edge; 80 spirals. regularly 35.00, 25.00

French Box Springs, with 72 spirals. regularly 23.00, 18.00

Woven Wire Springs,—double woven; with heavy rope edge. regularly 10.00, 8.50

Floor Lamps, finished in Antique Ivory or White Enamel; fluted column and heavy base; two lights; 22-inch cretonne shade. 7.95

Boudoir Lamps finished in Antique Ivory or White Enamel with 10-inch cretonne shade. 1.65

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